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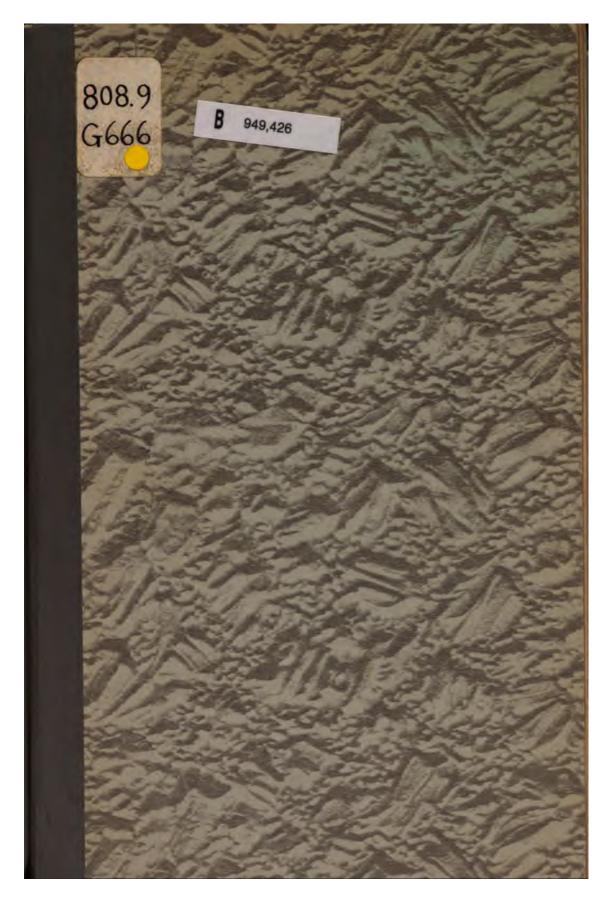
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Negro Journalism

An Essay On The History
And Present Conditions
Of The Negro Press



George W. Gore, Jr.



Journalism Press Greencastle, Indiana 1922

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Negro Journalism

An Essay on the History and Present Conditions of the Negro Press



GEORGE W. GORE, JR.
Junior in Course in Journalism
De Pauw University

Greencastle, Indiana 1922

Price 85 Cents

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PREFACE

This pamphlet does not pretend to be a detailed or scholarly discussion of the subject. Lack of experience and funds have limited the author to a mere outlining or suggesting of the field. In fact, this essay is only the expansion of a term paper submitted in fulfillment of a semester requirement in the Course in Journalism.

The main purpose of this essay is to show the various stages of development through which the Negro press has evolved with a view of furnishing a background for the better understanding of its present status. It is written, too, to present the problems and inherent possibilities of Negro Journalism; to point out the progress which is being made today; and to suggest future possibilities. If this attempt, amateur and incomplete as it may be, in any measure awakens an interest in the achievements and efforts of Negro newspapers and magazines it has served its purpose.

For the period up to 1890, the author frequently has referred to The Afro-American Press and Its Editors by I. Garland Penn—a work which is an authority on the subject for the period covered by it. A large part of the biographical data and information on present day newspapers was obtained from the Negro Year Book and communications. I especially wish to thank those editors and publishers who so kindly gave me the information which I desired.

I am also very grateful to The Chicago Defender and The Southern Workman of Hampton, Va., for the loan of some cuts.

Especially do I wish to acknowledge the valuable assistance and helpful criticism of my instructor, Prof. L. E. Mitchell, director of the Course in Journalism, in DePauw University.

GEORGE W. GORE, JR.

Greencastle, Indiana.

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A History of Negro Journalism In the United States

CHAPTER I.

EARLY NEGRO NEWSPAPERS

FREEDMAN'S

Seven years after Benjamin Lundy began

The Genius of Universal Emancipation, and
four years before William Lloyd Garrison
started to publish The Liberator, Negro Journalism in America was
born. The first publication was Freedom's Journal*, issued March
16, 1827. It was in form a medium-sized, neat-looking, well-printed
weekly, about nine by twelve inches. Freedom's Journal was a
thorough-going abolitionist sheet, having been called into being
to defend the Negro against the vile attacks of a New York editor
of Jewish descent who had pro-slavery and Negro-hating tendencies.
This new organ had for its motto, "Righteousness Exalteth a
Nation," and its columns were filled with long dissertations on the
immorality of slavery.

JOHN RUSSWURM
The editor, John Russwurm, one of the first
Negroes to graduate from a college in the
United States, graduated from Bowdoin College in 1826. Russwurm was born in Jamaiea in 1799. He published The Journal until 1829, when he went to Liberia, where he
became editor of The Liberia Herald.

THE COLORED

A period of about eight years elapsed before the founding of a second Negro newspaper. In January, 1837, Rev. Samuel Cornish began the publishing of The Weekly Advocate. The name was changed in March, however, to The Colored American, and under that name it continued to be issued weekly until 1842. The first editor, Rev. Cornish, was one of the leading Negro journalists of the period. He had been associated with Freedom's Journal, and throughout a period of twenty years he was actively connected with some newspaper.

ADVOCATED

The subscription price of The Colored American was two dollars per year in advance.

Its objects were, according to its flag, "the moral, social and political elevation of the free Colored people;

^{*}March 21, 1828, the name was changed to Rights of All.

and the peaceful emancipation of the enslaved." The paper was well received by the American press of the period, and many favorable comments on it appeared from time to time.

The first two Negro newspapers had their THE ELEVATOR headquarters in New York City, but their successor was established in Albany, N. Y. The Elevator came into being in 1842, with Stephen Myers as its publisher, The paper as was strongly backed by the Abolitionists. Among its influential supporters and backers was Horace Greeley of The New York Tribune.

THE NATIONAL WATCHMAN

Contemporaneous with The Elevator appeared The National Watchman and Clairion, which was established in Troy, N. Y., in the

latter part of 1842. Its publisher and editor was William G. Allen. It was short-lived, as was also The People's Press which was published by Thomas Hamilton in New York City the following year.

THE MYSTERY

Following the lead taken by the empire state, Pennsylvania became a field of activity for

the Negro journalist. In 1843, The Mystery was published at Pittsburgh by Dr. Martin Delaney, a graduate of Harvard College. At first it was conducted as the personal property of its editor, but as such it survived only nine months when it became necessary to transfer its ownership to a joint-stock company. After the change Delaney was retained in the capacity of editor.

Delaney was the first Negro editor to be sued for libel. He was fined for his statements; but his popularity was so great that the

fine was paid by popular subscription.

The Mystery ceased publication under that name in 1848, at which time it was purchased by the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

STATEMENT BY N. Y. Sun, Origin of The Ram's Horn

As the result of a statement by the editor of The New York Sun, "The Sun shines for all white men and not for colored men," in January, 1847, The Ram's Horn was begun.

Its editor was Willis Hodges, who according to The Afro-American Press and Its Editor*, furnished the money necessary to publish the first issue by whitewashing in New York City for two months. Within a short period of time the circulation of the paper reached two thousand five hundred copies. The subscription price was \$1.50 to subscribers within the state, and \$1 a year to those outside the state. Its motto was-"We are men, and therefore interested in whatever concerns men." The publication was a five column folio, printed on both sides, It suspended publication in June 1848. *Published by I. Garland Penn in 1891.

CHAPTER 2

THE ABOLITIONIST PRESS

(1847-1865)

With the founding of the North Star, at Douglass Founds NORTH STAR Rochester, N. Y., November 1, 1847, a new era in Negro Journalism was begun. The new paper was conducted on a much higher plane than any of the The editor of the North Star was Frederick preceding publications. Douglass, a man who stood head and shoulders above his colleagues. In fact, Douglass is in Negro Journalism what Bennett, or Pulitzer, or Greeley, or Dana is in American Journalism. The personal fame of the man gave his paper at once a place among the first journals of the country.

The columns of the North Star were filled with contributions from correspondents in Europe and the West Indies, as well as from all parts of the United States. It was the first Negro newspaper to have any considerable circulation among the American

people outside of its own race group.

The life of the founder of this paper is a LIFE OF FRED DOUGLASS most interesting one. Born a slave at Tuckahoe, Md., February, 1817, he escaped from his master in 1833, going first to New York City, and then to New Bedford, Mass. In 1841, he was sent out as a lecturer under the auspices of the Massachusetts Anti-Slavery Society. He was one of the most prominent anti-slavery agitators of his day; a series of lectures on the immorality of human slavery was given by him in England. Douglass' power as a writer was great, and his ready and vigorous use of the English language was always effective. The paper was discontinued shortly after the abolition of slavery.

THE IMPARTIAL Around the brilliancy of the North Star CITIZEN moved several satellites, which somewhat reflected the light of the major planet. Among these was The Impartial Citizen, published at Syracuse, N. Y., in 1848, by Samuel Ward. It is said that the paper was conducted on a high plane and was ably edited.

COLORED MAN'S The suspension of The Ram's Horn in 1848 left the Negroes of New York City without a JOURNAL RUNS newspaper. However, in 1851, Louis H. Put-TEN YEARS man began the publication of The Colored Man's Journal. It was backed by a friend who financially sup-

of ten years—a record unequalled during the period before the Emancipation by any paper with the exception of the North Star.

ALIENATED AMERICAN The Alienated American, edited by W. H. Day, was the first Negro newspaper published in Ohio. It entered upon its career in Cleve-

land, Ohio, in 1852, five years after its editor was graduated from Oberlin College. *The Alienated American* was one of the best journals published by Negroes in the nineteenth century.

Day was a prolific, scholarly writer. His publication was a creditable one and realized a good support. The paper ceased publication in 1856, when its editor made a trip to England.

A. M. E. CHURCH BUYS THE MYSTERY In 1848, the African Methodist Episcopal Church purchased *The Mystery* of Pittsburgh, Pa., of which Martin Delaney was editor.

During the four years of its existence in Pittsburgh, the paper was known as the *Christian Herald*. In 1852, the paper was moved to Philadelphia, and its name was changed to *Christian Recorder*. Rev. M. M. Clarke became its first editor.

CHRISTIAN
RECORDER OLDEST
NECRO NEWSPAPER

The beginning of the Christian Recorder in 1852, marks the founding of the oldest Negro newspaper in existence today. It is also significant in that it marks the first serious

attempt in Negro Journalism to establish a religious newspaper. The early years of the paper were beset with many difficulties, and oftimes the paper was not issued regularly. Not until Elisha Weaver became editor in 1861 did it appear weekly. The size of the paper has increased from 5 columns, 4 pages, 12 by 16 inches, in 1848, to its present size, 4 columns, 16 pages, 10 by 16 inches.

The present circulation of the paper is about 5,000. Its editor is R. R. Wright Jr., who received the degree of Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania in 1911.

NEGRO JOURNALISM ON PACIFIC COAST The year 1855 saw Negro Journalism starting on the Pacific coast. Within a space of less than thirty years Negro Journalism had made

its way from the Atlantic to the Pacific seaboard. The first publication was established at San Francisco under the name of *The Mirror of the Times*. Its editor was Judge Gibbs. It was published for seven years, and in 1862 was merged into *The Pacific Appeal*.

THE HERALD OF FREEDOM Another contemporary of the North Star was The Herald of Freedom, published in 1855, in Ohio, by Peter H. Clark. It was short-

lived but during its existence it was one of the best advocates of

Abolition. Its editor was a man of good common sense and vast knowledge. After the suspension of his paper, Clark was associated with Douglass on the North Star.

THE ANGLO-AFRICAN

Thomas Hamilton, the publisher of the shortlived People's Press, again attempted a publication in New York City. On July 23,

1859, he began publishing The Anglo-African. The paper was well printed and in the opinion of Frederick Douglass "had more promise and more journalistic ability about it, than any of the other papers." The motto of the papers of the period was highly indicative of their editorial outlook and policy. Practically every paper had its motto, and The Anglo-African was no exception. Its motto was: "Man must be free; if not through law, then above the law."

EMIGRATION

Advocates Haytian In 1860, the paper was bought by James Redpath—the object of his purchase being to advocate the Haytian Emigration Move-

ment. With the change in ownership the paper was known as The Weekly Anglo-African. Later, in 1861, the paper reverted to the Hamilton family, being published by Robert Hamilton. The original name of the paper was resumed, and under its new publisher became an ardent supporter of the Republican party. With the freeing of the slaves, The Anglo African began to advocate the need of educational facilities for the freedman, especially in the South. The paper was suspended shortly after Emancipation.

COLORED CITIZEN Organ of Negro SOLDIERS DURING War

During the period of the Civil War only two Negro newspapers were established, one of which was The Colored Citizen, published at Cincinnati, Ohio, by John P. Sampson. It was issued in the interest of the Negro

soldiers fighting in the war. It was commonly referred to as the "Soldiers' Organ," and was widely disseminated among the soldiers. Sampson was well educated-being a product of the Boston public school system—and as an editor he was both able and enterprising. The Colored Citizen was suspended the latter part of 1865.

THE PACIFIC APPEAL

In 1862, The Pacific Appeal came into being in San Francisco, but it was not a new publication, however, it was merely the suc-

cessor to The Mirror of the Times. Its editor was William H. Carter. It became the index of the activities of the Negroes on the Pacific coast. The paper's motto was: "He who would be free, himself must strike the blow." It was a six column folio, well-printed, and contained editorials which on the whole were sober and sound.

THE ELEVATOR,
EDITED BY BELL
coast was The Elevator, which was begun by
Phillip Bell, April 18, 1865, in San Francisco, Cal. The paper stated its mission thus: "We shall labor for the civil and political enfranchisement of the Colored people—not as a distinct and separate race, but as American citizens." The

for the civil and political enfranchisement of the Colored people not as a distinct and separate race, but as American citizens." The publisher encouraged advertisements and quoted his rates as being 60 cents for one insertion and 25 cents for each subsequent insertion.

BELL A MAN

OF LEARNING

Bell had been connected with the journalistic field for twenty-five years, and as a result was experienced in the work. His editorials

were of a high quality. His paper was neatly printed and contained contributions relating to science, art, literature and drama. In fact, it is said that Bell himself was well-versed in belles-lettres and dramatic criticism. By many of his contemporaries he was considered the Napoleon of the Negro press. Although he died in 1889, his paper continued for many years thereafter.

CHAPTER III

THE RECONSTRUCTION PERIOD

(1865-1880)

EMANCIPATION
GOAL OF NEGRO
PRESS

With the emancipation, a new period in Negro Journalism is begun. For nearly forty years newspapers had been published by Negroes who had obtained their freedom, but

the circulation of these papers among the race group of necessity was limited. Emancipation marked the realization of the goal of the Negro press prior to that time, and with the ushering in of freedom many of the newspapers ceased publication. There was, however, still another great, if not even more important task for the Negro press—the education of the masses of illiterate. This task the surviving newspapers, together with many new ones, set out to accomplish.

FIRST SOUTHERN
NEGRO NEWSPAPER
was the beginning of Negro newspapers in the South, where the large majority of Negroes were located. The first Negro newspaper published in the South was The Colored American of Augusta, Ga., issued for the first time in October, 1865. The following paragraph from its propectus will suffice to show the paper's attitude and policy:

- COLORED
AMERICAN'S
PROPECTUS

"It (The Colored American) is designated to be a vehicle for the diffusion of Religious-Political and General Intelligence. It will be devoted to the promotion of harmony and

good-will between the whites and Colored people of the South, and untiring in its advocacy of Industry and Education among all classes; but particularly the class most in need of our agency.

"Accepting, at all times, the decision of public sentiment and Legislative Assemblies, and bowing to the majesty of law, it will fearlessly remonstrate against legal and constitutional proscription by appeal to the public sense of justice."**

SHUFTEN'S EDITORIAL ON THE RACE PROBLEM The editor of the paper was J. T. Shuften, who was ably assisted by Dr. James Lynch. Shuften was credited by *The New York World* as having written the best article of

the time on the "Negro Question." The paper was short-lived and suspended February, 1866.

PRECURSORS IN SOUTHERN STATES

With the beginning of Negro Journalism in the South, papers sprung up in other states: The Colored Tennessean and The True Com-

municator, of Baltimore, Md., being among the more noted ones. Many of the papers were short-lived; others changed hands and names frequently and continued for several years.

Papers Grow in Influence and Circulation

The year 1868 saw the founding of *The Charleston Leader*, at Charleston, S. C. By 1870, the Negro press began to make itself felt. *The People's Journal*, with a circula-

tion of over 10,000 was being edited by Dr. R. L. Perry. In Mississippi, James J. Spellman nad John Lynch began *The Colored Citizen*. December, 1870, marked the founding of *The New Orleans Louisianian* by P. B. S. Pinchback*, who in 1873 became governor of Louisiana, being the only Negro ever to hold this position.

August 1861, John J. Freeman started *The Progressive American*, in New York City, which existed for ten years. The one outstanding achievement of this paper is the fact that as a result of its fight for Negro teachers in the public schools twenty-three were appointed. Editors Hichly Between 1865 and 1880, over 30 newspapers

EDUCATED Detween 1003 and 1000, over 30 newspapers of more or less merit came into existence; Negro newspapers were being published in

21 states. The papers of the period were ably edited and were the product of some of the most highly educated Negroes.

*Pinchback died in Washington, D. C., Dec. 22, 1921.

**Afro-American Press.

CHAPTER IV

THE PERIOD OF TRANSITION

(1880-1900)

Number of Papers The last twenty years of the ninteenth century were marked by an increase in the number of papers published. More than 150 papers were being published by Negroes in thirty different states before the dawn of the new century. To trace the history of all of these papers would be useless, if not well nigh impossible, as but few-of them were long-lived or permanent. Most of them were started for the achievement of a single end, and having served the temporary need disappeared. There are, however, several papers which were established during this period that demand treatment because of their longevity and present existence.

Philadelphia Tribune Among this group is *The Philadlephia Tribune*, founded by Christopher J. Perry in 1884. Perry, who was sole owner of his

paper, had had much experience in Journalism before becoming a publisher. His work as editor of the Colored Department of *The Sunday Mercury*, had established his reputation as a journalist.

REMARKABLE SUCCESS UNDER PERRY Since its founding, its editor has worked unceasingly towards its development, and as a result the success of the paper has been remarkable. Today the paper exists, and

decess under Perry in spite of the death of its founder in 1920, is still carried on by his heirs. Today The Philadelphia Tribune occupies an enviable position among Negro papers, and is undoubtedly one of the twelve best Negro papers in the United States. At the time of his death, Christopher Perry was president of The National Negro Press Association.

THE AGE OLDEST NEGRO PAPER IN NEW YORK CITY The oldest Negro newspaper published in New York City at the present time is *The* New York Age. It was founded in 1888 by T. Thomas Fortune, the living dean of Negro

newspaper editors. Fortune began his journalistic career as a boy in the office of a white paper published in Marianna, Fla. His first editorship came in 1880, when he became connected with The New York Globe. Under the guidance of Fortune, The Age was perhaps the greatest Negro newspaper of the period. Garland Penn, in his Afro-American Press (published in 1891), styles, Fortune as "the most noted man in Afro-American journalism."

RICHMOND PLANET EDITER BY MITCHELL The Richmond Planet, founded by John Mitchell, Jr., in 1884, is another Negro newspaper that has enjoyed longevity. Mitchell seems to have been a born newspaperman,

and practically all of his life he has devoted himself to journalism. Despite his location in the Southland, Mitchell has ever been a bold and fearless writer. Today *The Richmond Planet* still exists, with John Mitchell, Jr., at its head, and has a circulation of over 25,000.

SMITH AND THE The Cleveland Gazette was begun in August, CLEVELAND GAZETTE 1883, with H. C. Smith as sole owner. It was considered as one of the best edited papers in the United States. Smith was an ardent politician, and his editorials advocating Republicanism were exceptionally pointed and well put. The paper was one of the few Negro papers of the period that was a financial success. The Cleveland Gazette is still published by H. C. Smith. It has a circulation of approximately 20,000.

WILLIAM CHASE
AND THE BEE

published in Washington, D. C., is The
Washington Bee, of which William Calvin
Chase is editor and founder. Chase is especially noted for his
bull-dog tenacity in exposing and attacking fraud. He has always
been one of the "big guns" in editorial artillery. Chase is still
editor of his paper, and The Bee buzzes as of old.

The Freeman
First Illustrated Negro newspaper was
The Indianapolis Freeman, founded by Edward Cooper of Indianapolis Ind., July 14,
1888. The paper consisted of eight pages,

and gave a complete review of the doings of Negroes everywhere. The extensive use of cuts and illustrations made the paper famous. As an all around newspaperman, Cooper was without a peer, and under his management the paper reached a pre-eminent position in Negro Journalism. Today *The Freeman* is owned and controlled by George L. Knox, and it still enjoys a wide range of popularity. The paper features theatricals and sports. The present circulation is about 30,000.

AFRO-AMERICAN
The founding of The Afro-American in 1893,
by W. M. Alexander marks the beginning of
a paper which today figures most conspicuously in Negro Journalism. About 1896, the paper came into the
hands of J. H. Murphy, Sr.,* who is now its managing editor at

the age of eighty. More will be said of *The Afro-American* in connection with the chapter on Present Day Papers.

LEADING PAPERS IN 1897

A list of the leading Negro newspapers in America in 1897, compiled by J. T. Haley in his book Sparkling Gems of Race Knowl-

edge, includes the following: The Colored American, Washington, D. C.; The New York Age; The Indianapolis Freeman; The Cleveland Gazette; The Boston Courant; The Richmond (Va.) Planet; The Huntsville (Ala.) Gazette; The Southern Age, Atlanta, Ga.; The Progress, Helena, Ark.; The Elevator, San Francisco, Cal.; The Colorado Statesman, Denver Colo.; The Appeal Chicago, Ill.; The Afro-American, Baltimore, Md., and The Denver (Colo.) Star.

*Murphy died in April, 1922, at the age of 80 years.

ORGANIZATION OF NEGRO CORRESPONDENTS It would be improper to close a discussion of the period without mentioning the organizing of the "Associated Correspondents of Race Papers" on April 23, 1890. The object

of the organization was to establish a better medium of communication from the capital. This step was perhaps the first real effort for unison among Negro newspapers, and marked a growing spirit of journalistic co-operation and interdependency.

CHAPTER V

THE DAWN OF A NEW ERA

(1900----)

JOURNALISM BECOMING A PROFESSION Without doubt the first two decades of the twentieth century mark the highest progress in Negro Journalism. More papers have been established, and better papers have been

produced. A realization of the power of the press has grown as the period of freedom has increased and race consciousness has been developed. More men with capital have invested in newspapers. Publishers and editors began for the first time to consider Journalism a profession from which a living could be derived.

Lack Funds and Lack of adequate funds to fully develop a well-balanced newspaper has been and still is the greatest drawback to the Negro publisher. Until in very recent years, no Negro newspaper did all of its mechanical work. In many cases the newspaper office merely collected and arranged the news, and then carried it to some pub-

lishing concern. In other cases, the paper was printed by a publishing house, although the "forms" were made-up in the papers own shop. Thus, Negro newspapers have not been independent concerns.

Lack of Live News Stories In his effort to seriously make journalistic progress, the publisher of a Negro newspaper has always found it difficult to obtain suffi-

cient live material to fill up his sheet. There have been no news bureaus or syndicates to supply him with the type of news needed to make his paper a real newsy sheet. In his endeavor to "pad out" in order to continually fill the standard size of his paper, the Negro publisher has been compelled to "clip" news previously featured by the daily newspapers or rewrite news from other Negro papers—a task rendered difficult by the corresponding dearth of real news in all Negro papers during "dull" seasons.

Poor Organization A Serious Handicap Prior to and at the beginning of the twentieth century, the organization of the average Negro newspaper amounted to a printer-

editor, perhaps an assistant whose duties were varied and manifold, an office girl, who in addition to keeping books, also performed the duties of copy-reader, and two or three agents who worked part time on a percentage basis. The typographical and grammatical structure of many of the papers suffered greatly through the lack of having a staff sufficiently trained and equipped with the proper facilities for turning out a well-edited, well-printed sheet.

Dependence on a small, under-paid and inefficient organization—a condition analogous, and in many instances worse than that which exists on the small town newspaper—has seriously handicapped the Negro newspaper of the past.

News Bureaus and Syndicates Founded

The past twenty years have witnessed the evolution of a new Negro press. Stronger papers have been begun, and news syndicates and news associations have been

founded. Examples of the latter are: The Hampton Institute Service, The Tuskegee Institute Press Service, Allen's News Agency, The R. W. Thompson News Agency, The National Negro Press Association and The Associated Negro Press. Especially is the last named organization rendering a great service and filling a great need.

Associated Negro Press The Associated Negro Press has been in existence less than four years but during that time it has rapidly grown and achieved great

success. Today it has a membership of more than 100 newspapers.

The establishment of the A. N. P. was the first effort in Negro Journalism to assemble and distribute regularly general news from all sections of the United States and other countries affecting Colored people. Through the work of this organization big news stories now appear simultaneously in all of the leading Negro newspapers. The A. N. P. maintains executive offices in Chicago and permanent bureaus in Washington and New York.

Papers of the Period Among the present day papers established in this period are: The Boston Guardian, The Nashville Globe, The Atlanta Indepen-

dent, The Chicago Defender, The Detroit Leader, The Pittsburgh Courier, The St. Louis Argus, The Dallas Express, The Cleveland Advocate, The Negro World, The Indianapolis Ledger, The Indianapolis Recorder, and The Chicago Whip.

CHAPTER VI

PRESENT DAY PAPERS

250 SECULAR

Today over 250 secular Negro newspapers

WEEKLIES

are being published in the United States,
with a total circulation of over one million
five hundred thousand copies. These papers are published in 34

states and in the district of Columbia.

Papers Have Journalistic Appearance Papers published in the larger centers where the Negro population is large, such as New York City, Chicago, Boston, Philadelphia, Cleveland, St. Louis, Washington, Detroit-

Indianapolis, Baltimore, Pittsburgh, Nashville and Atlanta have developed to a high degree. Their make-up on the whole is good; their news stories for the most part conform with accepted journalistic style; their leads are of the summary type; their headlines, although somewhat sensational, are usually well constructed; their news treatment is becoming more impersonal; on the whole they are a great improvement over the Negro papers of the past.

DEFENDER HOUSED Negro newspaper offices are being transformed from mere receiving stations for news to newspaper plants. During May, 1921,

The Chicago Defender, one of the leading Negro newspapers, moved into a new building fitted up by its owner, Robert S. Abbott, at an expense of over \$200,000. The new Defender plant compares favorably with that of any paper of its size in the United States.



Abbott, Editor and Owner of The Chicago Defender, Chicago, Illinois

Its equipment includes four linotype machines, each equipped with two magazines, geared to cast seven lines per minute. The press on which The Defender is printed is a 32-page and color machine, made by the celebrated Goss Printing Press Company. It is driven by a 30 H.P. motor and six men are required for its operation. It prints, folds and counts the papers all in one operation at a speed of 35-000 copies per hour. The paper's circulation is over 200,000.

AFRO-AMERICAN
EMPLOYS 21
Another paper which is representative of the new order of things in Negro Journalism is The Afro-American of Baltimore, Md. The

Afro-American was among the first Negro papers to own and operate its own plant. Today the plant consists of a three-story building, Goss Press, three linotype machines, etc. The paper has twenty-one active employees and over two hundred agents in the state. The sworn circulation of the paper for 1920-21 was twenty thousand and one hundred copies weekly.

TRIBUNE OWNS
From a humble beginning in 1884, The
\$100,000 PLANT
Philadelphia Tribune has grown until today
its own hundred thousand dollar plant, fully
equipped to do modern job and commercial work in addition to
printing the paper. Christopher J. Perry remained sole owner

FORMER TULSA POLICE EXPOSES RIOT PLOT NEWS FIEND IS) ispu CAPTURED BY WOMAN 20- Year-Old HART CASE Murder Hount MYSTERY TO er Blaza Lands to Arrest DETECTIVES of Twestigh Cablury From Hot Seek \$5 Course at Howard THE PROPERTY CHANGE METS FRANTISMS CITY MIN LES INCH AS FREE CATS LESS BE THE WITH TELEPIS. SHE PRESENTERIA DESCRIPTION "House Behind

First page of the Chicago Defender, a leading Negro weekly newspaper with a \$200,000 plant and a subscription list which is over 175,000. A view of the plant is also shown.

the Cedan

of the paper from its founding to the time of his death. Today \ the paper is being published by his children, and is continuing along the conservative lines which have characterized the paper for more than 35 years.

BETTER STAFFS AND NEWS

In the past, the editorial page has been the one redeeming feature of the average Negro newspaper. Today the papers are beginning

to have well-balanced staffs, reporters, city, editors, cartoonists, etc. News stories are being better written copy is being handled more carefully, accuracy is being insisted upon, and make-up in general is being improved.

SECTIONAL DIFFERENCES IN DEVELOPMENT Papers printed in different parts of the country vary quite significantly in their makeup and quality. The best papers are probably published in the Middle West and the

East. The Southern press is still in the rear, although signs are evident that it is beginning to wake up. At the present four Southern papers have a very high national rating. They are The Afro-American, The Atlanta Independent. The Nashville Globe and The Dallas Express.

Papers Having Over 30,000 Seven papers have over 30,000 subscribers. The list includes the following papers in the order named: The Chicago Defender, The

Negro World, The Indianapolis Ledger, The Atlanta Independent. The New York News, The Pittsburgh Courier and The Birmingham Reporter.

Twelve Leading Negro Weeklies

Any attempt to select the leading Negro newspapers of necessity must be more or less arbitrary, and dependent upon prejudices

toward certain types of journalism. A probable list of the best twelve weeklies might include: The Chicago Defender, The Afro-American, The Cleveland Advocate, The Philadelphia Tribune, The New York Age, The Pittsburgh Courier, The Chicago Whip, The St. Louis Argus. The Indianapolis Ledger, The Atlanta Independent, The Detroit Leader and The Boston Guardian.

CHAPTER VII

DAILY NEGRO NEWSPAPERS

FIRST DAILY

CAIRO GAZETTE

The first attempt of the Negro journalist to publish a daily newspaper was The Cairo (Ill.) Gazette, which was first issued April 23-

1882. The editor was W. S. Scott. The paper was issued regu-

larly for six months when the plant was destroyed by fire. It was a readable sheet, contained much original matter, and had a good force of reporters.

COLUMBUS

MESSENGER

Senger, published at Columbus, Ga. It was first issued as a daily in 1888. It was edited by B. T. Harvey, a graduate of Tuskegee Institute. The sheet was 12 by 20 inches.

DAILIES ISSUED FOR Several newspapers have issued daily editions for short periods. The Knoxville (Tenn.) Negro World was issued daily as an advertising medium for two weeks. About 1890 The Public Ledger of Baltimore, Md., was issued daily by Wesley Adams, for a short period. The Nashville Globe published a daily during the \$30,000 Y. M. C. A. campaign in Nashville, Tenn., June 1-12, 1913. It proved a tremendous success for the twelve days and had an average circulation of 5,000 per day. During the World War The Herald of Baltimore, Md., edited by W. T. Andrews, was issued daily.

DAILIES IN FORM of "BROADSIDES"

Three daily papers are being published at present. Two of these, The Richmond (Va.)

Colored American and The Washington Colored American are published by the American Publicity Bureau, Inc., respectively with D. Eugene Taylor listed as general manager of both. In form these papers are "broadsides"—a bulletin type of sheet printed on only one side. They are printed on a sheet measuring 24 inches by 36 inches. The news is set in two double columns, running down the center of the page between a double column of advertising on each side.

DAILY
The third paper is The Indianapolis Daily
Standard which began publication the latter
part of April, 1922, under the editorship of
C. C. Shelby. It is a 7 column, 4-page paper and retails at 2 cents
per copy.

DRAWBACKS TO

NECRO DAILY

due chiefly to the fact: (1) That the field of such papers is already covered to a large extent by the American daily press; and (2) That a daily paper, with a restricted field from which to gather news, and denied the service of the Associated Press, is well nigh impossible. With the further development of the Associated Negro Press more Negro dailies may be possible.

CHAPTER VIII

NEGRO MAGAZINES

EARLY MAGAZINES The magazine field has not been entered as rapidly or as fully by the Negro journalist as the newspaper field. The first Negro

magazine, nevertheless, early followed the beginning made by the first Negro newspaper. In 1837, the first magazine—The Mirror of Liberty—was published by David Ruggles. It was devoted to the advancement of the free Negroes in the North, and was issued quarterly from New York City.

Anglo-African Magazine The next serious attempt to publish a Negro magazine was in 1856, when Thomas Hamilton, of New York City, issued *The Anglo-*

African Magazine, which was the outgrowth of his newspaper, The Anglo-African. It was devoted to literature, science, statistics and contained articles on the abolition of slavery. It existed for about four years.

A. M. E. REVIEW OLDEST MAGAZINE The oldest Negro magazine, like the oldest newspaper, was established by the A. M. E. Church. In 1884, that denomination began

the publishing of *The A. M. E. Review* in Baltimore, Md. Today it still exists and is published in Philadelphia, Pa.

OUR WOMEN AND CHILDREN

Another noteworthy periodical is Our Women and Children, first published in 1888, by Dr. William J. Simmons. It was unique in that

it practically confined itself to the feminine world. Its contributors were chiefly women and the articles which appeared on its pages concerned themselves primarily with questions which affected homelife.

OVER 100 MAGAZINES IN EXISTENCE Many other Negro magazines have been attempted; many of more or less note, but of the magazines established prior to 1900, scarcely a one, if any, are in existence today.

Of the leading present day magazines, none can boast of as long a period of publication as the present day newspapers. At present about one hundred magazines are being published by Negroes. However, this number includes school periodicals, church organs and fraternal organs, and only a small fraction of the total number are purely literary ro secular publications.

THE CRISIS EDITED BY DR. DUBOIS

Among the foremost Negro magazines of general literature is *The Crisis*, published at New York City, under the editorship of Dr.

W. E. B. DuBois, perhaps the leading literary figure among the race today. While the publication is the official organ of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, it contains short stories, essays, sketches and poetry of a high literary quality.

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NUMBER. A special feature of *The Crisis* is the emphasis it places on higher education. Each July it publishes an educational number containing the photographs of Negro college Northern institutions during the past school

graduates from white Northern institutions during the past school year. The issue also contains a resume of the educational progress of the year.

THE MESSENGER, A JOURNAL OF SOCIAL SCIENCE The Messenger, published in New York City by Phillip Randolph and Chandler Owen, is devoted to economic, political and sociological subject-matter, with special emphasis

upon the Negro and his relation to the labor problem. The tremendous influence of this magazine, devoted as it is to such a special field, is clearly shown by the fact that at present it has a circulation of over 26,000.

A MAGAZINE
DEVOTED TO MUSIC
AND SPORTS

Another magazine which confines itself to a limited field is *The American Musician and Sportsman Magazine*. This publication is printed in Philadelphia, Pa., by William A.

Potter, editor. It is intended to afford opportunity for the expression of opinion on things musical, and in addition to its emphasis on music it deals with all branches of professional and amateur sports. The magazine has a circulation of 5500.

JOURNAL OF NECRO HISTORY One of the most scholarly periodicals published by Negroes is *The Journal of Negro History* edited by Carter G. Woodson, Ph.D.,

at Washington, D. C. The publication treats in a thorough-going and detailed manner the history of the Negro race.

Brownies' Book for Negro Youth

The Brownies' Book, a magazine devoted to the activities of the Negro youth, is also published in New York City and has at its

head Dr. DuBois and Augustus Dill. It contains stories, the life and deeds of famous men and women of the Negro race, and current events of the world told in language suitable for children. In a similar manner to the *The Crisis*, it features the photographs of Negro high school graduates.

FEATURE NEGRO
Two magazines of national importance and SHORT STORIES
published in Chicago, Ill., are The Half-Century, edited by Katherine Williams Irmin and The Favorite, edited by Fenton Johnson. Both of these periodicals feature literary material and short stories dealing with Negro life.

THE RADIATOR Another periodical dealing with a special field is *The Radiator*, a bi-monthly insurance magazine, edited by Sadie T. Mossell at Durham, N. C. Its purpose is to disseminate news and information to Negro insurance companies and workers.

LEADING PRESENT Other magazines published at the present time are: The Journal of the National Medical Association, issued quarterly by the National Medical Association at Tuskegee Institute, Ala.; The Pullman Porter's Review, Chicago, Ill.; The Search Light, Raleigh, N. C.; The Rainbow, New York City, and The Crusader, New York City.

CHAPTER IX

TRAINING IN NEGRO SCHOOLS

ELEMENTARY

TRAINING IN

schools and colleges to provide academic training in Journalism. Even in the high schools, the development of a vague appreciation of, and elementary training in Journalism is afforded by the publishing of school papers, under the supervision of the English department. Such schools as Dunbar High School, Washington, D. C.; Summer High School, St. Louis, Mo.; Central High School, Louisville, Ky.; Pearl High School, Nashville, Tenn., and Langston High School, Hot Springs, Ark., illustrate the point.

COLLEGE

What is true of the high schools is true of
the Normal and Industrial schools and colleges on a larger scale. Approximately one
hundred periodicals are published by such institutions at least once
a month. Some of these are purely the product of the student
body; a few of them are the product of both students and faculty;
still others are the publication of the administration and faculty,
and under the supervision of a university editor. Many of the
latter have developed to the place where they are nationally known.

Such periodicals as The Fisk University News, The Southern Workman (Hampton Institute), Howard University Record (quarterly), The Tuskegee Student and The Atlanta University Bulletin (quarterly) are among the best Negro publications in the United States.

JOURNALISM This, however, is not all. The training of Courses at Negro journalists is being attempted through FISK UNIVERSITY college courses. Fisk University, Nashville, Tenn., perhaps, was the first school to give such courses. Under the professorship of Isaac Fisher, one of the foremost Negro editors today, four courses in Journalism are offered. The course as outlined in the latest Fisk University catalog includes: (1) Essentials in Newspaper Technique—a course including practise in writing, editing, and methods of presentation; (2) The Law of Journalism—a study of libel, copyright, rights and duties of the press in reporting judicial proceedings, and the liabilities of the publisher, editor, reporter and contributor; (3) Ethics of Journalism—lectures discussing the proper responsibility to the public on the part of newspaper writers; (4) Art of Newspaper and Magazine Making—a course devoted to the studying of

PROFESSIONAL What will in all probabilities mark the real beginning of professional training in Journalism among Negroes is the opening of the proposed School of Journalism by Howard University, Washington, D. C. Owing to a limitation of finances, unfortunately the school has not yet been put in operation.

actual work of making a newspaper and magazine, with laboratory '

practice to supplement the theory studied.

PROPOSED COURSES AT HOWARD UNI-VERSITY JOURNALISM SCHOOL The course as outlined in the Howard University catalog is based upon two years of college work, including a reading knowledge of at least two modern languages, and advanced work in English Composition. The

professional work covers two years and leads to the degree of Bachelor of Science in Journalism. The subjects offered are: Practice in Writing, Newspaper Technique, Newspaper Editing, The History of Journalism, Advertising, Journalistic French, Journalistic German, Journalistic Spanish, Elements of Law, Freehand and Applied Drawing, and certain college courses in History, Economics, Sociology, Literature and Politics.

JOURNALISM AT
While it does not have a separate department
in Journalism, Wilberforce University offers
courses in journalistic writing as a part of
the work in the department of English. Three courses are given

at present: Business English, Short Story Writing and Editorial Writing.

PRINTING

On the mechanical side of newspaper publishing, work is offered in printing at Hampandton Institute (Va.), Tuskegee Institute (Ala.), and Wilberforce University (Ohio). Many of the present printer-editors are products of these schools.

CHAPTER X

A FORECAST OF THE FUTURE

From its small beginning in 1827, Negro Journalism has steadily grown in the United States. Today it stands as a definite factor in Negro life. In truth, the Negro press reflects the growing race consciousness of eleven million American citizens of African decent. The status of the Negro newspaper is fixed—it is here to stay. While daily newspapers may devote space to "News of Interest to Colored People;" yet they can never take the place of the newspapers which are published solely for the race group. The appeal of the Negro newspaper is direct and racial. In a manner similar to that of the rural press, the Negro paper has an unlimited field because of its personal relationship to its readers.

During the first half century of Negro Journalism, it is doubtful if any of the papers were financial successes; in truth, most of them were published as purely partisan or propagandists organs, and were supporte dthrough the contributions of sympathizers. Today Negro newspapers are conducted on business principles and pay reasonable returns to their investors.

Papers in the large cities have built up enormous subscription lists of bona fide, paid-up subscribers. Likewise, they carry a large amount of well-paying advertisements, and as a result of these sources of income they are able to give attractive renumeration to their publishers, editorial staff and business staff. No longer must the Negro journalist necessarily be an unpaid worker. Trained journalists can obtain respectable salaries and find as many openings as their fellow workers on metropolitan dailies and national weeklies and monthlies.

That the calibre of the work done on Negro publications will continue to improve is highly probable in view of the fact that every year an increasing number of trained young men and women

are entering the field, and bringing with them burning enthusiasm and high professional ideals. The Courses in Journalism in the Negro colleges, also, will soon be having a telling effect on the fastere Negro journalist. Already a few of the twentieth century Negro youths are being attracted to the professional study of Journalism, preferring the possibilities of its virgin field to the overcrowded professions of law, teaching, medicine and theology.

The future of Negro Journalism is limited only by the zeal and conscientious effort which its workers bestir themselves to exert. A marvelous growth and success has been recorded within the past 95 years, but greater achievement is yet to be accomplished. Negro semi-weeklies, and eventually dailies in the larger cities, will undoubtedly be developed within the next decade. The size of many of the present weeklies will be increased of necessity. Better news stories and more real news will be the result of the successful functioning of such news syndicates as the Associated Negro Press.

The decreasing of illiteracy among the Negroes will continue to be carried forward by the Negro press, with a mutual benefit to the race and its publications. Higher standards of literacy will bring greater appreciation for reading and thereby create a stronger support for the Negro publisher.

In the immediate future, perhaps, the great field for development in Negro Journalism is in the South where the great mass of Negro population, despite the Northern immigration, resides. There Negro Journalism needs and will continue to need its best trained editors and managers. There it will need men of sound judgment and common sense; men of purpose and high professional ideals; men of broad sympathy and great patience.

PARTIAL LIST OF NEWSPAPERS PUBLISHED IN THE UNITED STATES

ALABAMA

The Birmingham Reporter Birmingham The Emancipator Montgomery The Mobile Forum Mobile The Mobile Advocate Mobile The Mobile Weekly Press Mobile The Negro Leader Uniontown The Times Plaindealer Birmingham The Voice of the People Birmingham The Voice of the Negro Dothan		
ARKANSAS		
Hot Springs Echo.Hot SpringsArkansas Banner.Little RockThe Appreciator-Union.Fort SmithThe Negro Advocate.FordyceThe Interstate Reporter.HelenaThe Opinion-Enterprise.MariannaWestern Review.Little RockWhite River Advocate.NewportThe School Herald.Warren		
ARIZONA		
The Phoenix TribunePhoenix		
CALIFORNIA		
The Eagle Los Angeles The Liberator Los Angeles The Citizens Advocate Los Angeles Oakland Sunshine Oakland The Western Outlook Oakland The New Age Los Angeles The Western Review Sacramento		
COLORADO		
COLORADO		
Colorado StatesmanDenverThe Denver AdvocateColorado SpringsThe Rising SunPueblo		
CONNECTICUT		
Hartford HeraldHartford		
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA		
The Washington Eagle		

FLORIDA

Florida Sentinal Jacksonville Labor Templar Jacksonville West Florida Bugle Marianna The Tampa Bulletin Tampa Metropolitan Tallahasse The Palatka Advocate Palatka The Colored Citizen Pensacola			
GEORGIA			
The Savannah Journal			

The Savannah Journal	. Savannah
The Savannah Tribune	. Savannah
The Americus Chronicle	. Americus
The Athens Clipper	Athens
The Atlanta Post	Atlanta
The Atlanta Independent	Atlanta
Rome Enterprise	Rome
The Advocate	Brunswick
The Augusta News	Augusta
Supreme Circle News	Albany

ILLINOIS

Inter-State Echo Danv	ille
The Broad AxeChica	ago
The Chicago DefenderChicago	ago
The Chicago IdeaChicago	ago
The Peoples AdvocateChica	ago
The SearchlightChica	ago
The WhipChic	
The ForumSpringfi	
The Weekly StarMound (lity
The Illinois ConservatorSpringfi	eld
Advance CitizensSpringfl	eld

INDIANA

	FreemanRecorder	
The Indianapolis	Ledger	Indianapolis
The Indianapolis	World	Indianapolis
The Terre Haute	Citizen	Terre Haute
National Defende	r and Sun	Gary
The Gary Dispa	tch	

10WA

Iowa State BystanderDes	Moines
Buxton Gazette	Buxton

KANSAS

The Topeka PlaindealerTope	ĸa
The Negro Star	ta
Wichita Protest Wichi	ta
The Coffeyville Globe	lle
Hutchinson BladeHutchins	

KENTUCKY

The Kentucky Reporter Louisville The Columbian Herald Louisville The Louisville News Louisville Kentucky Home Finder Louisville Lexington Weekly News Lexington The Torchlight Danville Saturday News Hopkinsville The New Age Hopkinsville		
LOUISIANA		
The Advance Messenger		
MARYLAND		
The Afro-American		
MASSACHUSETTS .		
The Guardian Boston The Boston Chronicle Boston		
MICHIGAN		
The Michigan Age		
MINNESOTA		
The National Advocate		
MISSISSIPPI		
The Cotton Farmer Scott The Delta Lighthouse Greenville The Natchez Weekly Herald Natchez The National Star Vicksburg The Star Columbus The Morning Star Columbus The Mississippi Monitor Meridan The Light Vicksburg The New Era Indianola The Weekly Times Hattiesburg The Weekly Reporter Natchez Central Mississippi Signal Kosciusko The Progressive Torchlight Greenwood The Advance Mound Bayou The National Defender Clarksdale The Informer Gulfport The National News Digest Mound Bayou		

MISSOURI
The St. Louis Independent-ClarionSt. Louis
The St. Louis ArgusSt. Louis
The Anchor
The Missouri State Register
Kansas City SunKansas City
The National MirrorKansas City
The Western MessengerJefferson City
The St. Louis Independent NewsSt. Louis.
NEBRASKA
The MonitorOmaha
NEW JERSEY

The	Eastern ObserverMontclair
	EchoRed Bank
	Atlantic AdvocateAtlantic City
The	New Jersey InformerNewark

NEW YORK

The New York NewsNew	York	City
The Amsterdam NewsNew	York	City
The New York AgeNew	York	City
The Negro WorldNew		
The CommonerNew		

NORTH CAROLINA

The Gate City Argus	Greensboro
High Point Colored American	High Point
The Charlotte Advertiser	Charlotte
The Voice	Rocky Mount
The Raleigh Independent	Raleigh
The Home News	Wilmington
The Gazette	Charlotte
Signs of the Times	Elizabeth City
The Winston-Salem News	

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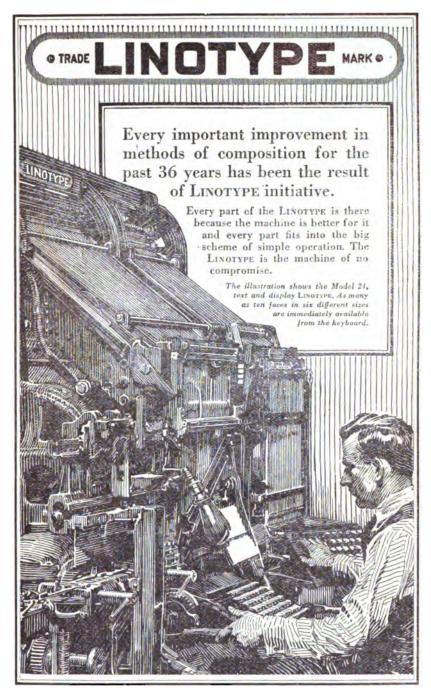
The	Dayton Forum	Dayton
The	Cleveland Gazette	. Cleveland
	Cleveland Advocate	
The	Union	Cincinnati
The	Cincinnati Journal	Cincinnati

OKLAHOMA

The Boley Progress	
The Oklahoma Guide	Guthrie
The Muskogee Scimetar	Muskogee
Rentiesville NewsR	entiesville
Clearview Patriarch	Clearview
The Tulsa Star	Tulsa
The Oklahoma Sun	Tulsa
The Black DispatchOkla	homa City

OREGON			
The Advocate,Portland			
PENNSYLVANIA			
The Advocate Verdict Harrisburgh The Philadelphia Courant Philadelphia The Philadelphia Tribune Philadelphia The Philadelphia American Philadelphia The Public Journal Philadelphia The Pittsburgh Courier Pittsburgh The Pittsburgh American Pittsburgh The Advocate Wilkes-Barre			
RHODE ISLAND			
The AdvanceProvidence			
SOUTH CAROLINA			
The Charleston Messenger Charleston The New Era Charleston The Allendale Advocate Allendale The Southern Indicator Columbia The Informer Columbia The Light Columbia The Plowman Columbia The Negro Chronicle Greenville The People's Recorder Organeburg The Rockhill Messenger Rockhill			
' TENNESSEE			
Bluff City News			
TEXAS			
Texas Guide. Victoria The Victoria Guard. Victoria The Calvert Bugle. Calvert The City Times. Galveston The Galveston New Idea. Galveston The Dallas Express. Dallas The Industrial Era. Beaumont The Herald Austin The Watchman Austin The Houston Informer Houston The Houston Observer. Houston The Texas Freeman Houston The Western Star Houston The Houston Informer Houston The Houston Informer Houston The Houston Informer Houston The San Antonio Inquirer San Antonio			

The Gem City Bulletin. Denison The Conservative Counselor. Waco Forth Worth Hornet. Fort -Worth			
VIRGINIA			
The Charlottesville Messenger Charlottesville The Colored Virginian Petersburg The Weekly Review Petersburg The Richmond Planet Richmond The Virginia Headlight Charlottesville The Virginia Advocate Roanoke The Star Newport News The Journal and Guide Norfolk			
WASHINGTON			
The Seattle SearchlightSeattle			
WEST VIRGINIA			
The Advocate			
WISCONSIN			
The Wisconsin Weekly Blade			



This advertisement composed entirely on the LINOTYPE

We represent at the present time in the advertising field, practically every paper of consequence reaching the Colored people of the United States.

We are pleased to extend our most cordial greetings to our newspaper friends and will continue to extend the same reliable service in the future, we have given in the past.

W. B. ZIFF CO.

Per E. C. Auld, General Mgr.

Transportation Bldg., Morton Bldg. Bryant Bldg.
Chicago, Ill. New York, N. Y. Kansas City, Mo.

